

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02669 041733 Z

51

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /074 W

----- 108418

R 041644 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9800

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

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EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR FR GW BL

SUBJ: ALTMANN/ BARBIE

1. NEWLY APPOINTED MININTERIOR ALFREDO ARCE TOLD AMBASSADOR AND EMBOFFS APRIL 30 THAT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER ALTMANN/ BARBIE WILL BE EJECTED FROM BOLIVIA. ARCE SAID ALTMANN/ BARBIE'S CONTINUED PRESENCE IN BOLIVIA IS AN EMBARRASSMENT, IS DETRIMENTAL TO BOLIVIA'S INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION, AND A DOMESTIC POLITICAL IRRITANT. IN ADDITION ARCE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL LACK OF SYMPATHY FOR ANYONE WHO WAS A NAZI WAR CRIMINAL. ARCE SAID HE EXPECTED BOLIVIA'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM TO FIND ALTMANN/ BARBIE EXTRADITABLE TO FRANCE, BUT HE SAID IF IT DID NOT ALTMANN/ BARBIE WOULD BE SENT TO PERU IN RESPONSE TO PERU'S REQUEST FOR HIM ON CRIMINAL CHARGES. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT WHAT EFFECT ALTMANN/ BARBIE'S BOLIVIAN CITIZENSHIP WOULD HAVE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS EXTRADITION, ARCE SAID THE CITIZENSHIP WAS OBTAINED BY FRAUD AND DISMISSED IT AS A CONSIDERATION.

2. COMMENT: ARCE'S HARDLINE ATTITUDE ON THE ALTMANN/ BARBIE CASE CONTRASTS FROM THAT OF HIS PREDECESSOR WHO SEVERAL MONTHS AGO EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ALTMANN/ BARBIE WOULD BE EXTRADITED IN VIEW OF HIS BOLIVIAN CITIZENSHIP.

SIRACUSA

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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